



Island Access

Alaska Campaign

Five rockets launch
from Poker Flat
Page 6

Job Shadow Day
Local students visit WFF
Page 5

LEED Certification
Wallops infrastructure
earns operational award
Page 7

February Calendar

24

African American History Month presentation — Colonel Frederick Gregory

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 1-2:30 p.m. in F-6, room 110. The African American Advisory Committee (AACC), in partnership with the Goddard Equal Opportunity Programs Office, is sponsoring an African American History Month event featuring Colonel Frederick Gregory (USAF, retired), astronaut and former NASA Deputy Administrator, open to all Wallops employees via ViTS.

21
28

Wallops Visitors Center Saturday Programs

1st Saturday: 11 a.m. Story Time; 2 p.m. Model Rocket Launch.

2nd Saturday: 11 a.m. Space Racers Activity; 2 p.m. Science Demonstration.

3rd Saturday: 11 a.m. Puppet Show; 2 p.m. NASA SCIFiles Program.

4th Saturday: 11 a.m. Toddler Craft Time; 2 p.m. Science on a Sphere Presentation.

26

Italian Dinner & Trivia Night at the Rocket Club

Thursday, Feb. 26, Building F-3. Adults \$7, Children under 12 \$3. Dinner includes lasagna (meat or veggie), salad, garlic bread, beverage and dessert. Trivia competition will have prizes awarded. Purchase tickets at the Exchange or Rocket Club until Feb. 20.

What's inside

3

What's up @ Wallops?

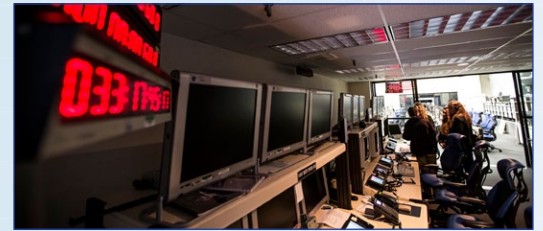
FCLP flights, Peregrine motor test

4

MLK Celebration

Civil Rights leader honored

5



Job Shadow Day

Local students visit Wallops

6



Alaska 2015 Campaign

Five sounding rockets launched from the Poker Flat Research Range

7

LEED Certification

Building E-109 earns certification in building operations and maintenance

8

Terrier-Oriole Launch

DoD mission of three rockets scheduled for Feb. 23 through 27

9

Around Wallops

Photos from February events

on the
COVER

Four rockets for the MTeX and MIST missions launched from the Poker Flat Research Range in Alaska Jan. 26.

Photo Credit: NASA/Jamie Adkins

Island Access

Bldg. E-104, room 204

34200 Fulton Street

Wallops Island, VA 23337

Email: Wff-information@mail.nasa.gov



www.facebook.com/NASAWFF



www.twitter.com/nasa_wallops

The Wallops Island Access is published monthly by the Wallops Office of Communications and Optical Systems Group. To submit photographs or articles, email wff-information@mail.nasa.gov.



Members of the Wallops Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP) project support team pose with members of the Navy VAW-120. Wallops recently earned a 2014 Robert H. Goddard Honor Award for "New Opportunities Captured" for work on FCLP. Photo Credit: NASA/Terry Zaperach

What's up @NASAWallops?

Navy's Field Carrier Landing Flights at NASA Wallops

WALLOPS ISLAND — Two U.S. Navy squadrons completed 2,526 flight approaches during nine days of Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP) flights that concluded Jan. 29 at Wallops Flight Facility.

The FCLP detachment operation trained 20 pilots of E-2 Hawkeye and C-2 Greyhound aircraft during 163.4 flight hours flown during the detachment operation.

The FCLP practice landings are conducted to provide simulated carrier landings in a stable environment. The flights are part of pilots' required training program prior to qualifying for at-sea carrier landing operations.

In total, 208 support personnel deployed to Wallops for the FCLP operations. Navy Airborne Early

Warning Squadron (VAW)-120 and VAW-121, along with additional aircraft flown by VAW-124 and Fleet Logistics Support Squadron VCR-40, conducted the FCLP flights.

The next Navy FCLP Detachment at Wallops is scheduled for March 2-12, 2015. On-going training of non-FCLP E-2/C-2 flights continue with the Control Tower.

March Peregrine rocket motor test postponed

WALLOPS ISLAND — The team developing the Peregrine rocket motor conducted the first test of the new design, which includes several advance technologies to reduce costs, Feb. 10 at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

Some hardware abnormalities were observed during the test and are now under evaluation by the testing team.

"We appreciate the effort by our government and commercial partners in this motor development project," said Phil Eberspacher, chief of the NASA Sounding Rocket Program at Wallops. "The test flight of the Peregrine motor planned for March will be postponed until the static test has been analyzed and we determine our next steps forward."

Aerospace Days highlights industry's impact in VA

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA — Aerospace leaders from across Virginia descended on Richmond, Virginia, Feb. 4-5 to update elected officials on the many benefits the aerospace industry is bringing to the Commonwealth and nation.

Those benefits are impressive, as the aerospace and aviation

What's up continued on Page 8



Members of the 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Ceremony Committee pose with guest speaker, Kimberly Conway Dumpson, Executive Vice President, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, during the event Feb. 5 at Wallops. From left, Denise Cervantes, Samuel Henry, Kimberly Conway Dumpson, Lisa Johnson, Roland Wescott, Cheryl Johnson, and Jay Pittman.



Members of the Navy's Surface Combat Systems Center (SCSC) Color Guard post the colors during Wallops' Martin Luther King Jr Commemoration Ceremony Feb. 5. From Left, IC2 Michael Alexander, YN1 Michael Chase, FC2 Stephen Osieczonek, and ET3 Anthony Stout.

MLK Day celebration

Kimberly Conway
Dumpson speaks at event



Above: IC2 Michael Alexander of the SCSC Color Guard.

Left: Kimberly Conway Dumpson was guest speaker for the event.

Photo
Credits: NASA/
Patrick Black



Above: Kimberly Conway Dumpson delivers the keynote address during the ceremony.

Left: Jackie Faison-Elmendorf delivered a brilliant vocal performance during the ceremony.



National Job Shadow Day brought students Oshaena Conn and Alea Aul from Worcester Technical High School to the cockpit of a C-130 in a hangar at Wallops Flight Facility on February 2, 2015. Photo Credit: NASA/Patrick Black

Job Shadow Day brings local students to Wallops

WALLOPS ISLAND — Nineteen area high school sophomores, juniors and seniors spent the day at Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) Feb. 2 for National Job Shadow Day.

The students, eight girls and 11 boys, came from high schools in Accomack, Worcester and Somerset counties to shadow WFF scientists, researchers and specialists from the Sounding Rockets, System Software Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Range and Mission Management, Advanced Projects, Operations, Communications, Environment and Safety Offices.

“Job Shadow Day enables students to have a firsthand preview of the NASA Wallops Flight Facility workplace,” said Linda Sherman,

Wallops’ education specialist. “The one-on-one student/mentor experience allows students to gain insights into future careers and to ask questions about the education and technical training needed to prepare themselves for their future STEM careers.”

Many of the students expressed an interest in WFF summer internship opportunities after their shadowing experiences. They were provided information on applying for the 28 new Summer Internships at NASA Wallops Flight Facility for high school and college students in 2015. NASA’s [*One Stop Shopping Initiative \(OSSI\) webpage*](#) provides online application information through the March 1, 2015, application deadline.

Mentors also inquired about the potential for supporting summer internships after their experience during Job Shadow Day. WFF offices interested in mentoring student interns during the 2015 summer may submit their opportunities into the OSSI system.

Upcoming activities include:

- Career and college readiness fairs at J.M. Tawes Technical Center in Westover and Pocomoke High School in Worcester County.
- Judging Skills USA District IV Competition at Eastern Shore Community College.

For more information about Wallops’ Education programs, visit the [*Wallops Education office website*](#).

Five rockets blast off into the Alaskan aurora

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA — Five sounding rockets flew from the Poker Flat Research Range, Alaska, into the auroral lights of the northern night sky during this year's campaign studying how the aurora borealis impacts Earth's atmosphere, space weather and satellite trajectories.

The first four launches into the aurora occurred Jan. 26, 2015, with sounding rockets carrying two Mesosphere-Lower Thermosphere Turbulence Experiment (MTeX) payloads, alternating with two Mesospheric Inversion-layer Stratified Turbulence (MIST) payload launches. The salvo of four sounding rockets occurred during a 34-minute timeframe beginning at 4:13 a.m. EST.

The MTeX mission was designed to study the impact of auroral radiation and solar activity on Earth's atmosphere. For example, major changes in the composition of Earth's upper atmosphere, caused by recent solar storms, can contribute to ozone destruction. MIST's vapor trails assisted in detecting turbulence during the MTeX launches without impacting the environment.

The fifth launch into the aurora occurred Jan. 28, 2015, at 5:41 a.m. EST. A NASA Oriole IV sounding rocket launched the Auroral Spatial Structures Probe (ASSP) with six 7.3-pound sub-payloads, each deploying in high velocity succession.

ASSP measured thermospheric electric and magnetic fields during auroral light events. The data collected will help scientists understand the drag effect of the aurora borealis on satellite trajectories.

The five sounding rocket launches were conducted by the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, under contract with NASA's Heliophysics Science Division and supported by NASA's Sounding Rocket Program of the Suborbital and Special Orbital Projects Directorate at Wallops. The Leibniz Institute of Atmospheric Physics at the University of Rostock, Germany, and Clemson University of South Carolina participate with the MTeX and MIST programs, respectively.



An Oriole IV launched from the Poker Flat Research Range in Alaska Jan. 28, carrying the Auroral Spatial Structures Probe payload and sub-payloads.

Photo Credit: NASA/
Lee Wingfield

Wallops earns Silver LEED certification

WALLOPS ISLAND — Wallops conducts cutting edge research and development in support of new entry, descent and landing technologies, sub-arcsecond pointing, and launch trajectory modeling and simulation all under one roof that LEEDs the way in sustainable work practices.

Through the work of Wallops' facility management team, the Wallops Engineering Building, Bldg. E-109, has earned the silver level of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification in the building operations and maintenance category.

"This was a huge project many years in the making," said Ron Simko, project leader. "Dozens of improvements from low-flow plumbing to automated lighting are now paying dividends."

Building E-109 is the first LEED certified building at Wallops.

Wallops partnered with Jacksonville, Florida-based RS&H, an architecture, engineering and consulting firm with offices in Norfolk, Virginia, on the project. Some of the work that contributed toward earning the certification include:

- Using native or adapted plants over 25 percent of the site area, largely in the courtyard area
- Implementing a stormwater management plan that uses landscaping to mitigate 15 percent of stormwater runoff
- Eliminating water use outside the building by using native vegetation
- Installing low-flow plumbing fixtures resulting in a 21 percent reduction in water use
- Improving energy efficiency through retro-commissioning, which focused on enhancing building automation, lighting and weatherization, reducing E-109 energy use by 18 percent

LEED continued on Page 8

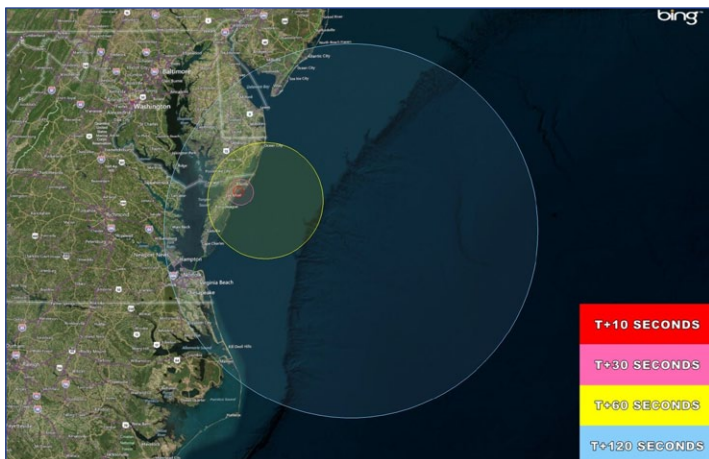
E-109 Courtyard



Photo Credits: Patrick Black

E-109 Front Entrance





Terrier-Oriole Visibility Map Photo Credit: Mission Planning Lab



From left, Wallops Flight Facility Center Director Bill Wrobel, Goddard Space Flight Center Director Chris Scolese, and Langley Research Center Director Steve Jurczyk present Virginia Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam with a montage graphic during Virginia Aerospace Days Feb. 4-5. Photo Credit: NASA/David Bowman

DoD mission to launch three Terrier-Oriole rockets

WALLOPS ISLAND — Three Terrier-Oriole suborbital rockets are scheduled for launch between 12:30 and 4:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 23, for the Department of Defense from NASA's launch range at the Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.

The rockets are scheduled to launch within a one-minute period and may be visible to residents in the mid-Atlantic region. The back-up launch dates are Feb. 24 through 27.

At the request of DoD project managers, no real-time launch status updates will be available. The launches will not be shown live on the Internet nor will launch status updates be provided on social media once the countdown begins. The NASA Visitor Center at Wallops will not be open for viewing the launches.

What's Up continued from Page 3

industries have contributed \$36.4 billion to Virginia's economy, brought in \$57.5 million in state tax revenues and created almost 300,000 jobs.

NASA's Wallops Flight Facility and Langley Research Center combined account for \$1.1 billion of that economic growth, supporting nearly 10,000 jobs.

Those numbers aren't lost on Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam, who grew up in Onancock on Virginia's Eastern Shore, just a stone's throw from NASA Wallops.

Northam expressed his gratitude for the economic boost NASA brings to the Commonwealth during a meeting with NASA Langley Center Director Steve Jurczyk, Wallops Director Bill Wrobel and Goddard Space Flight Center Director Chris Scolese.



The Mission Planning Lab works in their office in E-109.

LEED continued from Page 7

The LEED certification also factored in telework and carpooling practices among employees working in E-109, which reduces conventional commuting trips by 25 percent, conserving fuel and reducing air and water pollution.

Building E-109 is a multifunctional 52,779-square-foot, two-story building built in 2007 housing engineering labs and office space. The LEED for Building Operations and Maintenance program provides tools for facility managers to make existing buildings more energy efficient.



The Wallops Visitors Center held an Astronomy Night Feb. 6 for the public to view Jupiter and the moon through provided telescopes. More than 700 adults and children attended the event. Photo Credit: NASA/Gary Letchworth

Around Wallops



Snow covers the freshly planted dune grass along the south side of the island in front of Pad 0B. A snow storm hit Wallops Feb. 17. Photo Credit: NASA/Jamie Adkins



The Delmarva Peninsula is seen in this photo taken from the International Space Station on Jan. 12. Photo Credit: NASA/ISS

We want your pictures!!

Have a picture of an event around Wallops, a group photo, awards, or just having fun around the work place? We want to include your photos in our new monthly section Around Wallops. Please include names of people in the photo and a short description. To submit photographs, email wff-information@mail.nasa.gov.



More than 300,000 sand dune plantings on south Wallops Island were finished Jan. 30 following the completion of the post-Sandy beach restoration project in September 2014. Photo Credit: NASA/Anne Garcia